



IRW

520.42989X00

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: T. SHIROGANE et al.  
Serial No.: 10/629,813  
Filed: July 30, 2003  
For: STORAGE SYSTEM  
Group: 2145  
Examiner: A. Choudhury

**REPLY**

**Mail Stop Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 26, 2007

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 6, 2007, setting a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on May 6, 2007, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the following amendments and remarks.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2.

**Remarks** are included following the amendments.